

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BOGOTA 02144 061601Z

47

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 SSO-00 SS-15 /026 W

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O 061545Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7415

INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BOGOTA 2144

FOR ARA ASST SEC ROGERS FROM AMBASSADOR

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR OTRA

SUBJ: ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS' TRIP

REF: STATE 48980

1. CONFIRMING OUR TELCON, DELIGHTED YOU CAN VISIT BOGOTA. I HAVE ARRANGED PRIVATE DINNER WITH LIEVANO AT RESIDENCE MARCH 16, AT 8:00 PM. I HAVE DISCUSSED WITH LIEVANO POSSIBILITY OF YOUR ALSO SEEING PRESIDENT LOPEZ SUNDAY EVENING. PRESIDENT MAY BE OUT OF TOWN THAT WEEKEND; LIEVANO WILL CHECK. WE WILL NOT KNOW WHETHER THIS IS POSSIBLE UNTIL LATER.

2. THERE IS A LOGISTICS PROBLEM. FLYING TIME CARACAS TO BOGOTA VIA ATTACHE ACFT IS 3-1/2 TO 4 HOURS AND IT IS BEST TO ALLOW FOR LATTER. SINCE IT IS HIGHLY ADVISABLE THAT YOU ARRIVE IN BOGOTA BEFORE DARK, I WOULD URGE THAT YOU DEPART CARACAS MARCH 16 AS EARLY AS YOU CAN AND CERTAINLY BY 1400 HOURS. SIMILARLY FOR RETURN TRIP TO CARACAS MARCH 17, YOU SHOULD COUNT ON 0700-0800 DEPARTURE FROM HERE IF YOU WISH TO ARRIVE IN CARACAS BY APPROX 1100.

3. PENDING CONFIRMATION OF YOUR ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE TIMES, I HAVE SCHEDULED NOTHING ELSE. IF YOU CAN LEAVE MID OR LATE MORNING MONDAY, I WOULD TRY TO HAVE BRIEF MEETING WITH FINANCE MIN BOTERO, WHOM I THINK YOU KNOW AND WHOM I THINK IT WOULD BE ESPECIALLY USEFUL TO TALK TO.

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4. IF YOU DO NOT NEED TO RETURN TO CARACAS PARTICULARLY WE CAN ARRANGE FOR 1000 DEPARTURE FROM BOGOTA VIA AVIANCA-EASTERN WHICH WOULD LAND YOU IN WASHINGTON NATIONAL AT APPROX 1800 HOURS.

5. IN VIEW OF VERY SHORT TIME HERE AND FACT YOU WILL BE ARRIVING VIA ATTACHE ACFT IN PRIVATE PART OF AIRPORT, I RECOMMEND AGAINST AN ARRIVAL STATEMENT. WE DO RECOMMEND A "PRESS AVAILABILITY" SESSION AT AIRPORT UPON DEPARTURE RATHER THAN FORMAL PRESS CONFERENCE.

6. YOU AND BENTLEY ARE VERY CORDIALLY INVITED TO STAY AT RESIDENCE.
VAKY

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